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**Abnormal Flowers.**—Mrs. C. T. Tracy sends to us from Ripon, Wis., a sketch and description of a flower of *Trillium cernuum*, L., which has one petal and two sepals of the ordinary form and color, while the third sepal has been replaced by a perfect leaf, and the other two petals have a green stripe through the centre. Mrs. Tracy says: "A member of my botany class found a flower of *Sanguinaria Canadensis* with twenty-five petals, and a corresponding diminution of stamens. It was found among others that were in normal condition."

### Botanical Notes.

*On the Relation of Heat to the Sexes of Flowers.*—At a meeting of the Botanical Section of the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Science, on April 9, Mr. Thomas Meehan referred to his past communications to the Academy, showing that in monoecious plants female flowers would remain at rest under a temperature which was sufficient to excite the male flowers to active development. Hence a few comparatively warm days in winter or early spring would bring the male flowers to maturity, while the female flowers remained to advance only under a higher and more constant temperature. In this manner the explanation was offered why such trees were often barren. The male flowers disappeared before the females opened, and the latter were unfertilized. He referred especially to some branches of *Corylus Avellana*, the English hazle-nut, which he exhibited before the Section last spring, in which the male flowers (catkins) were past maturity, the anthers having opened and discharged their pollen, and the catkins crumbling under a light touch, but there were no appearances of action in the female flower-buds. There were no nuts on this tree last season. The present season was one of unusually low temperature. There had not been spasmodic warmth enough to bring forward the particularly excitable maple-tree blossoms. The hazle-nut had not, therefore, had its male blossoms brought prematurely forward. He exhibited specimens from the same tree as last season, showing the catkins in a young condition of development, only half the flowers showing their anthers, while the female flower-buds had their pretty purple stigmas protruding from nearly all of them.

Mr. Meehan remarked that his observations the past few seasons had been so carefully made that he hardly regarded confirmation necessary, but believed the further exhibition of these specimens might at least serve to draw renewed attention to his former communications.

*Cooke's Illustrations of British Fungi.*—American subscribers to this work will regret to be informed that the premises of the plate-printers were recently destroyed by fire, and, with them, all the work in progress, including Part xviii. of the "Illustrations," which had just been completed. This will cause uncertain and unavoidable delay, but, as soon as possible, some arrangement will be made to continue the works on fungi and fresh-water algæ.